

(STUDENT NAME OMITTED)

Period 3

Life in a Day

Authorship- Kevin Macdonald was the director of this film, with the help of the people who filmed their lives and submitted their videos via YouTube. I feel that knowing the filmmaker's personality and style would contribute a lot to the analysis of the film because it would make the message easier to understand and also why the videos were placed in the order they were in.

Purpose- I think the film is trying to answer these questions: How similar are we? How different are we? Do we share the same feelings towards certain subjects? How does money affect what people appreciate? Also, I feel that the film emphasizes the similarities and differences between more-developed countries and less-developed countries.

Economics- The film must not have needed much to fund because the filmmakers asked people from all over the world to film their life in a day and submit it to their channel via YouTube. The people who filmed themselves were in charge of their own costs. The film premiere was streamed live on YouTube. On October 31, 2011, YouTube announced that Life in a Day would be available for viewing on its website free of charge, and on DVD. Kevin Macdonald says he chose a day "because a day is the basic temporal building block of human life—wherever you are." July 24, 2010 was the first Saturday after the World Cup.

Impact- 1. I feel that people all over the world will benefit from this film because they can see that we are much more similar than we think. We share a lot of the same hopes, joys, disappointments, and fears. I feel that the less-developed countries will receive more attention after this film because of their poor lifestyles. The filmmakers did not pick certain people to film their life; however, some people could be upset by how poorly their country was represented. For instance, all of the white people had much more luxurious lifestyles than any of the other races.

2. I learned to appreciate what I have. After seeing some of the poor conditions in other countries and the 9 year old boy working as a shoe-cleaner on the streets, it made me feel much more appreciative of the life I have. And after seeing the poor huts with 17 people living in them and one boy being tied up because of his retardation, it made me want to help those people. I also learned that we are very similar. We all share a similar routine and have the same feelings towards certain subjects.

Content- 1. The film is about how similar we are around the world. 80,000 submissions from 192 nations displayed people's lives on July 24, 2010. Every so often there would be a clip of a woman silently holding a sign with a question on it; that question would then be answered by many clips of people around the world. This directly compares the answers amongst the different countries and proves that we have similar beliefs.

3. The voices of authority in this film are the people in the videos. The people tell the story. For instance, there was a man from Korea who wants to travel around the world by bicycle. He has traveled to 190 countries and while describing the conditions of some of the countries, clips of those countries were shown to support his statements. Also, there was a clip of these African women working and singing a song. Their song then took over and played over many of the other clips to add emotion to those clips.

Techniques- The filmmaker did an excellent job with the order of the clips. To show how similar our morning routines were, many clips of people waking up, brushing their teeth, eating breakfast, etc. were shown right after another to make it seem like the morning routines were the same for everyone and were happening at the same time. And when the day was ending, he would show all of the night clips. He also inserted the clip of the women holding the questions obtain the audience's attention to listen to the answers that were about to be viewed. These techniques make it seem as though we are all doing the same thing at the same time and that we share the same beliefs.

Interpretation- 2. After watching this film, it made me appreciate the life I have. There were so many people in poor countries that didn't have any money, food, or even water. There was even a 9 year old boy who worked on the streets as a shoe-cleaner, I'm 17 and have never had a job. It also made me disappointed to see how conceited some of the white people were. For instance, there was a man who said "what do I love? My Lamborghini." Shortly after, a poor African woman who was skin and bones answers the same question with, "I love my family." Although there were these differences, I learned that we aren't very different people, we just live very different lifestyles.

Credibility- This film relied on the videos that people submitted. For the most part, these sources were credible. Some clips clearly showed people's lives on July 24, 2010; however, some clips made me question who was filming. One would think that the quality and angles of the videos would be amateur, but some clips were very professional and had many different camera angles. In the less-developed countries, it was obvious that the people on camera could not afford much, let alone a camera, so I wondered who was filming.

